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work has been the descent of the Missouri River in a 'Mackinaw' (a sort of flat boat) from Fort Benton to Bismarck by a party of geologists, consisting of Dr. C. A. White, Mr. J. B. Marcou, and Mr. Lester F. Ward, with one assistant, for the express purpose of geological and paleontological study.

The distance, according to steamboat schedule, is 1,059 miles; and thirty days (Aug. 22 to Sept. 20) were consumed in the journey. A large part of the territory passed through is occupied by Indian reservations; and there is no white population between Benton and Poplar Creek Agency, the first post-office, — a distance of 567 miles. The river is very low at this season of the year; and the current was correspondingly sluggish, though still quite rapid enough in some places. Progress was farther impeded by shoals, bars, and head winds; and considerable time was, of course, occupied in climbing and examining the adjacent bluffs and mountains.

The geology of this region, as all know, is very interesting; and the trip is believed to have thrown much light upon some of its leading problems. The results of the expedition will, of course, be officially made known in due time by the several parties participating, who have brought with them ample data, both in the form of notes and specimens.

— Mr. G. Brown Goode arrived in Washington on the 2d inst. from London.

— Representatives of nearly all the branches of the western surveys have returned to Washington. Dr. C. A. White reports having explored a great number of miles of the upper Missouri in a row-boat, being engaged in extending and confirming his previous observations of the formations.

— The winter session of the Philosophical society of Washington opens on the 13th inst. A considerable number of communications on widely different topics are in readiness. Biological papers are not numerous. The Biological society will probably begin its session on the 19th inst. It is possible that negotiations for the formation of a Washington academy of sciences will be opened for a second time this winter, but with what success it is impossible at present to say. It seems to be generally considered that an academy would be desirable, but there is little agreement relative to the proper basis of union between the existing societies.

— Prof. K. A. Zittel of Munich is visiting this country, and will probably be in Washington early in this month.

— At the first autumn meeting of the Boston society of natural history, Oct. 3, Mr. F. W. Putnam gave an account of the great serpent-mound in Adams county, O., and of some other ancient works in Wisconsin and Ohio examined during the past summer.

— The Appalachian mountain-club commenced its Boston meetings on the 10th, when papers were read on the Route Salvan, by Selah Howell; on a trip over Osceola, the Twin Mountain range, and Garfield, by W. L. Hooper; and on an exploration of the Traveller Mountain, and the head waters of Mattagamon River, by G. H. Witherle.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

Aymard, J. La poudre à canon; le télégraphe; les montagnes et les volcans; les tremblements de terre, les pétrifications. Paris, *Lefort,* 1883. 107 p. 12°.

Barrois, T. Catalogue des crustacés podophtalmaires et des échinodermes recueillis à Concarneau durant les mois d'août-septembre, 1880. Lille, *impr. Danel,* 1883. 68 p., pl., map. 8°.

Berquin. Les merveilles du firmament, ou le système de la nature dévoilé à la jeunesse. Limoges, *Ardant,* 1883. 119 p. 8°.

Bonnet, E. Petite flora parisienne, contenant la description des familles, genres, espèces et variétés de toutes les plantes spontanées ou cultivées en grand dans la région parisienne, avec des clefs dichotomique conduisant rapidement aux noms des plantes; augmentée d'un vocabulaire. Paris, *Savy,* 1883. 12+528 p. 18°.

Brass, A. Biologische studien. Theil i.: Die organisation der thierischen zelle. 8°.

Broca, P. Memoires d'anthropologie. Paris, *Reinwald,* 1883. 800 p. 8°.

Chatenet, E. du. Pompéi et Herculanum, découverte et description de ces deux villes romaines. Limoges, *Ardant,* 1883. 120 p. 12°.

Cole, E. M. Geological rambles in Yorkshire: a popular handbook of magnesian limestone, new red sandstone, etc. London, *Simpkin,* 1883. 112 p. 8°.

Costatin, J. Étude comparée des tiges aériennes et souterraines des dicotylédones. Paris, *Masson,* 1883. 177 p., 8 pl. 8°.

D'Anvers, U. Flowerless plants. London, *Philip,* 1883. (Sc. ladders.) 84 p. 12°.

De Long, Emma. The voyage of the Jeannette; the ship and ice journals of George W. De Long. Edited by his wife. 2 vols. Boston, *Houghton, Mifflin, & Co.,* 1883. 22+911 p., 2 portr., 5 maps, 14 pl., illustr. 8°.

Dubois, A. La science populaire. Au bord d'une mare, entretiens sur l'histoire naturelle. Limoges, *Ardant,* 1883. 304 p. 4°.

—— Les animaux dans les bois. Limoges, *Ardant,* 1883. 192 p. 8°.

—— Les oiseaux et les insectes. Limoges, *Ardant,* 1883. 191 p. 8°.

—— Les végétaux dans les bois. Limoges, *Ardant,* 1883. 192 p. 8°.

Duclau, S. La science populaire; la chaleur et ses effets. Limoges, *Ardant,* 1883. 120 p. 12°.

Exposition internationale d'électricité, Paris, 1881. Jury reports. 2 vols. Paris, *Masson,* 1883. 484; 414 p. 8°.

Frenzel, J. Ueber bau und thätigkeit des verdauungskanals der larve der Tenebrio moliter mit berücksichtung anderer arthropoden. Inaug. diss. Göttingen, *Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht,* 1882. 50 p. 8°.

Govin, M., and **Moireau,** M. Notions de cosmographie. Paris, *Bertaux,* 1883. 36 p. 18°.

Gresley, W. S. A glossary of terms used in coal-mining. London, *Spon,* 1883. 306 p., illustr. 8°.

Heaford, A. S. Strains on braced iron arches and arched iron bridges. London, *Spon,* 1883. illustr. 8°.

Illinois — Geological survey. Vol. 7. Geology and paleontology, by A. H. Worthen. Paleontology, by A. H. Worthen, O. St. John, and S. A. Miller; with an addenda (*sic*) by C. Wachsmuth and W. H. Barris. (Springfield), *State,* 1883. (4)+373 p., 31 pl. 1. 8°.

Kutscher, E. Die verwendung der gertsäure im stoffwechsel der pflanze. Inaug. diss. Göttingen, *Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht,* 1883. 36 p., 2 pl. 8°.

Lackemann, W. Euler's interpolirte producte. Inaug. diss. Göttingen, *Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht,* 1882. 43 p. 8°.

Lange, E. Goethe's farbenlehre vom standpuncte der wissenschaftstheorie und aesthetik. Inaug. diss. Göttingen, *Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht,* 1882. 38 p. 8°.

Leydig, F. Untersuchungen zur anatomie und histologie der thiere. 8°.

Mouillefert, P. Vignes phylloxerées; faits établissant l'efficacité et la haute valeur du sulfocarbonate de potassium pour combattre le phylloxera, etc. Paris, *Narbonne,* 1883. 58 p. 4°.

Munro, J. Electricity and its uses. London, *Tract society,* 1883. illustr. 8°.

Pichler, M. von. L'indicateur du travail et du fonctionnement des machines à piston, à vapeur, à eau, à gaz, etc., et son diagramme. Traduit par R. Seguela. Paris, *Baudry,* 1883. 5+98 p., 46 fig. 8°.